

862.2632



PATENT APPLICATION

2782
K.M.#6
8/17/99

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HIDEYUKI IKEGAMI, et al.) Group Art Unit: 278
Application No.: 09/215,194)
Filed: December 18, 1998)
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS)
AND CONTROL METHOD FOR)
THE SAME) August 11, 1999

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

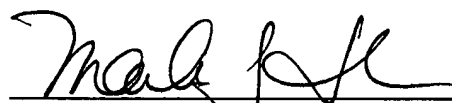
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to U.S. Patent No. 5,377,321, a copy of which is enclosed and listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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